

Department of Labor

2933.104

with policies and procedures issued by DOL.

PART 2933—PROTESTS, DISPUTES, AND APPEALS

Subpart 2933.1—Protests

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AUTHORITY: 5 U.S.C. 301; 40 U.S.C. 486(c).

Subpart 2933.1—Protests

SOURCE: 51 FR 40375, Nov. 6, 1986, unless otherwise noted.

2933.102 General.

The Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy, Directorate of Procurement and Grant Management, shall be responsible for coordinating bid protests filed with the General Accounting Office (GAO). All communications relative to protests filed with GAO or GSBCA shall be coordinated with the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy. Bid protests concerning automatic data processing (ADP) acquisitions filed with the General Services Administration Board of Contract Appeals (GSBCA) shall be coordinated by the contracting officer.

2933.103 Protests to the DOL Agency.

When protests are filed with a DOL Agency and received before award, the contracting office shall obtain the advice of the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy, before making the determination under FAR 33.103(a).

2933.104 Protests to the GAO.

(a) *Notice of protest.* Upon being advised telephonically by GAO or the re-

ceipt of a protest before or after award, the Office of Procurement and Grant Policy shall inform the appropriate contracting officer and request preparation of the protest report required by FAR 33.104(a)(2). For GAO protests concerning ADP acquisitions, the Office of Procurement and Grant Policy shall also inform the Director, Directorate of Information Resources Management, who, in turn, shall notify the appropriate DOL Agency Information Resources Management (IRM) contact. As required by FAR 33.104(a)(3) and 4 CFR 21.3, the contracting officer shall promptly notify all interested parties, including offerors (or the contractor, if the protest is after award) involved in or affected by the protest, that a protest has been filed with GAO and the basis for the protest. A written record of such notification shall be placed in the contract file. After receiving a copy of the protest from GAO and its request for an administrative report, the Office of Procurement and Grant Policy will promptly furnish the same to the contracting officer. The contracting officer shall promptly transmit by letter a copy of the protest to all interested parties previously notified and include a statement requiring furnishing of views and information directly to GAO. Copies of cover letters shall be sent to the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy. Cover letters shall set forth a specified period of time for submission of comments (see FAR 33.104(a)(3)) and include instructions that any comments submitted to GAO should also be submitted simultaneously to the contracting officer and the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy. Materials submitted by the protester may be withheld from interested parties in accordance with 4 CFR 21.3(b).

(b) *Submission of report.* (1) All personnel shall handle protests on a priority basis. Within 25 work days after receipt by the Office of Procurement and Grant Policy of GAO's telephonic notice of the protest, or within 10 work days after receipt from GAO of a determination to use the express option, a complete report shall be submitted to GAO (see FAR 33.104(a)(2)). If the specific circumstances of the protest require a longer period, the head of the

contracting activity shall immediately notify the Office of Procurement and Grant Policy which shall request, in writing, an extension of the time period in accordance with 4 CFR 21.3(d).

(2) In addition to the requirements of FAR 33.104(a)(2), the report responsive to the protest shall be appropriately titled and dated; shall cite the GAO file number; and shall be signed by the contracting officer or the contracting officer's representative. Reports shall be prepared with the assistance of the Office of the Solicitor of Labor. If appropriate, the report shall contain a statement regarding any urgency for the acquisition and the extent to which a delay in award may result in significant performance difficulties or additional expense to the Government. If award is not urgent, a statement shall be included giving an estimate of the length of time an award may be delayed without significant expense or difficulty in performance. The head of the contracting activity shall submit an original and one copy of the contracting officer's report to the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy, with a forwarding letter to GAO signed by the Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management. When the letter and report are dated and transmitted to GAO, the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy, will inform the contracting officer. The contracting officer will then distribute copies of the report to all interested parties.

(c) *Notice to GAO.* The Assistant Secretary for Administration and Management shall submit the report required by FAR 33.104(f). The report shall be submitted to the Comptroller General through the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy, and the Director, Directorate of Procurement and Grant Management. For decisions concerning ADP acquisitions, the report shall also be submitted through the Director, Directorate of Information Resources Management.

2933.105 Protests to General Services Administration Board of Contract Appeals.

(a) *Notice of protest.* Immediately upon receipt of a copy of a protest to the General Services Administration

Board of Contract Appeals (GSBCA), the contracting officer shall inform the Office of Procurement and Grant Policy, the Directorate of Information Resources Management, and the Office of the Solicitor of Labor. The contracting officer shall, within 1 work day after receipt of a copy of the protest, provide oral or written notice to all parties required to be notified by FAR 33.105(a)(2) and shall provide the GSBCA with a written list of all such parties to whom notice was provided within 5 work days after receipt of a copy of the protest. A copy of all notifications to interested parties and related correspondence with GSBCA shall be maintained in the contract file and a copy of the list of interested parties notified shall be provided to the Office of Procurement and Grant Policy simultaneously with submission to the GSBCA.

(b) *Submission of protest file.* An original and one copy of a protest file (see FAR 33.105(b)) plus one copy for each interested party which has a notice of intervention or a motion to intervene in accordance with the requirements of Rule 5(a)(3) of GSBCA Rules of Procedure (48 CFR 6101.5(a)(3)) shall be prepared by the contracting officer. The protest file shall be organized to comply with the requirements of Rule 4(b) of the GSBCA Rules of Procedure (48 CFR 6101.4(b)). The contracting officer shall submit the file to the GSBCA within 10 work days after filing of the protest and shall also send copies to the Director, Office of Procurement and Grant Policy, and to each interested party.

(c) *Hearings.* The Solicitor of Labor, or the Solicitor's representative, is responsible for representing the contracting officer at all stages of proceedings on suspension of the agency's delegation of procurement authority (see FAR 33.105(d)), at all stages of proceedings on the merits of the protest (see FAR 33.105(e)), and with respect to any other proceedings which may be heard by the GSBCA. The head of the contracting activity shall be responsible for executing the determination required by FAR 33.105(d)(1). The Office of the Solicitor shall notify the contracting officer and the Directorate of Information Resources Management of